

DETAILED ACTION

This is in response to the Amendment filed on January 10, 2008. Claims 1-31, 33, 35-37, 40-43 have been cancelled. Claims 44-58 are newly added. Claims 32, 34, 38-39 and 44-58 are pending in this application.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments regarding "searching for best match when saving the information that is encountered when traversing the first tree in a second tree" with respect to claims 32, 34, 38-39 and 44-58 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The previous rejection of the claims has been withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with William J. Daley (Reg. No. 52,471) on April 11, 2008.

Please cancel claims 53-58 (independent claim 53 and dependent claims 54-58).

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 32, 34, 38-39 and 44-52 are allowed over the prior art of record.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claims 32 and 47, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest the claimed provision searching for best match by saving the information that is encountered when

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traversing the first tree in a second tree as claimed in conjunction with remaining claims provisions.

3. The dependent claims, being further limiting to the independent claims, definite and enabled by the Specification are also allowed.

Comments

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

5. As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant’s response must either comply with all format requirements of specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 CFR 1.111(b) and MPEP section 707.07(a).

Other Prior Art Made of Record

6. 1. Nishio (US 4,868,743) discloses a traversal method and apparatus of processing tree structure information.

2. Liu et al. (US 6,266,660) disclose a secondary index searching in relational database systems.

3. Varghese et al. (US 6,011,795) disclose a method and apparatus for fast hierarchical address lookup using controlled expansion of prefixes.

4. Kothuri et al. (US 6,381,605 B1) discloses hierarchical indexing of multi-attribute data by sorting, dividing and storing subsets.

5. McDaniel et al. (US 7,246,102 B2) disclose method of improving the lookup performance of three-type knowledge base searches.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

Point of Contact

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HANH B. THAI whose telephone number is (571)272-4029. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur (7:00AM - 4:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on 571-272-1834. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (571) 273-8300 for regular communications and (571) 273-8300 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.

Hanh B Thai
Examiner
Art Unit 2163

April 18, 2008

/don wong/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2163